

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
RESTRICTED

Classification changed from
"CONFIDENTIAL" to "RESTRICTED"
by order of the Secretary of War
by /s/ E. Checket, Major, Inf.

Q. State your name, rank, serial number, permanent home address, and any other pertinent information concerning yourself.

A. My name is [Corporal Charles Eugene MAURER, U.S.M.C., Serial Number 289960. / My permanent home address is Coleman, Alberta, Canada. I had a high school education, followed by vocational training in Chicago, and have served in the Marine Corps for a little over five years. I was captured by the Japanese at Fort Hughes, Philippine Islands, on 6 May 1942. I was imprisoned at Cebu Island from 28 June 1942 until 6 November 1942, when I was sent to Japan and imprisoned at the Umada Camp at Osaka from 27 November 1942 until 20 May 1945. I was then sent to the prisoner of war camp at Tsuruga, Japan, where I remained until 2 August 1945. I arrived in the United States on 5 October 1945.

Q. Did you witness any torture, beatings, or any other cruelties while imprisoned by the Japanese?

A. I observed many beatings administered by Japanese guards while I was at Umada Camp in Osaka and also later when at Tsuruga. At Osaka there were originally 450 men. 120 died in the first four months from poor food and exposure. Our food was 570 grams of rice per man per day, which was inadequate for men working. If you did not work, this ration was reduced, and in the hospital toward the end patients were given only 300 grams of food per day. The Japanese gave us very little in the way of clothing. During my imprisonment the only clothing I got of any warmth or quality was one suit of American Red Cross greens and hats and gloves. We were also given some Japanese Army clothing, but it was of poor quality and was second-hand. At Osaka we prisoners were put to work in the railroad yards unloading freight, some of it for Japanese civilians but much of it for the Japanese Army, and at Tsuruga we were put to work on the docks unloading Japanese Army gear sent to Japan from Manchuria. I mention the above to explain why it was necessary for us to steal food and clothing whenever it was possible, and there were frequently opportunities at Osaka. However, when we were caught the guards would beat us and I was beaten on more than one occasion. Two guards in particular at Osaka administered beatings and I can remember their names or nicknames. The first was a guard named MARIYAMA, who was a reserve army man and was later sent to active duty, at which time his rank was first sergeant. MARIYAMA was about thirty years old, rather slender build, and of average height for a Jap, - I should estimate 5'2" to 5'4". He was a rather good looking Jap. He compelled the prisoners to stand at attention or take some uncomfortable position such as kneeling and if they moved would slap them. He at times also used a stick possibly two feet long and an inch to an inch and a half in diameter. He frequently beat the prisoners until their faces were swollen and their eyes blackened. The second guard was nicknamed "Lou Gehrig" because he always beat prisoners with a club. He seemed to select them with care so

that they would not break. "Lou Gehrig" was about 35 years old, heavy set, 5' to 5½' in height. He was a regular army man and was a two star sergeant. He was transferred to Tokyo about February of 1945.

At Tsuruga the most vicious guard was a man named KIMURA, who was nicknamed "The Sadist." He was about 35 years old, approximately 5' tall, and was very slight in build. He was a reserve army sergeant. There was something wrong with his right arm. He could beat a man with his hand for fifteen to twenty minutes and would apparently feel no pain in his arm whatever. He used it like a flail. The camp commander at both Osaka and Tsuruga was a Lieutenant NUMBA of the Japanese Army, who ordered some of the beatings and was present at others.

Q. As a prisoner in Japan, were you ever exposed to danger of bombing or other hazards of war?

A. I was. As stated above, we were worked in the railroad yards at Osaka, which were a target for incendiary raids. The bombs fell within two blocks of us at Osaka on 13 March 1945. We were told in May that we were being moved to Tsuruga because it was safer, but knew as soon as we saw the docks there and the ships that we were in for further bombing. This occurred as expected. Our barracks were burned out on 12 July 1945 as a result of an air raid. We were then moved into a warehouse right on the docks and we were sleeping there. The dock area was made a target for an air raid on 31 July and we were bombed. After being bombed out on the 31st, we were moved to quarters on the other side of town. Our new quarters were next to a cotton mill, which was bombed on 8 August 1945.

Q. As a prisoner were you transported by the Japanese under improper conditions?

A. When we were moved from the Philippine Islands to Japan about 1800 to 2000 prisoners were loaded onto the MIIGATA MARU, which had three holds. In our hold there were 600 men. There was insufficient space for all of us to sit down, let alone lie down. The trip to Japan lasted twenty days. We left the Philippine Islands on 6 November 1942 and arrived at Moji on 26 November 1942. Sanitary conditions were inadequate and poor.

I can recall nothing further concerning these incidents which would be of value to the War Crimes Office and I do not have any other information, favorable or unfavorable, which I consider of sufficient importance to report.

/s/ Charles E. Maurer

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/s/ E.C.

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RESTRICTED /s/ E.C.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS.
 County of Alameda)

I, Charles Eugene MAURER of lawful age, being duly sworn, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation, consisting of two pages, and that all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Charles E. Maurer

Subscribed and sworn to before me this Sixth day of October, 1945,
 at Oakland, California.

/s/ F. M. Robinson
 (Rank) Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) SS.
 County of Alameda)

I, Lieut. F.M. ROBINSON, U.S.M.R. certify that (Name) Charles Eugene Maurer, (Rank) Corporal, USMC 289960, personally appeared before me on the Sixth day of October, 1945, and testified concerning war crimes, and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by (him ~~her~~) to the several questions set forth.

Place: Oakland, CaliforniaDate: 6 October 1945F. M. RobinsonPages 2 of 3 pages.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

/s/ Edwin F. Sware
EDWIN F. SWARE
 1st Lt., Inf.

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RESTRICTED /s/ E.C.

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EX 1967

Doc 8065

1.

文管看號 八〇六五

／チャールス／エーデーン／モーラー／伍長／
エ／エス／エム／シー／
／CHARLES／EUGENE／MAURER／U.S.M.C.／

連戦看號二八九九六〇デアリマス。私ハ一九四二年
五月六日、比島／フオート・ヒューズ／ニ於テ日
本軍ニヨリ逮捕サレマシタ。FORD HUGHES

私ハ一九四二年六月廿八日カラ同年十一月六日迄
／カバネアトワシ／ニ収容サレテ居リマシタ。ソレ
カラ、日本ニ送ラレ一九四二年十一月廿七日カラ
一九四五年五月廿日迄、大阪ノ海軍俘虜收容所ニ
收容サレテ居マシタ。ソレカラ私ハ日本ノ救済俘虜收容所ニ送ラ

レ其處デ一九四五年八月迄観望致シマシタ。私ハ一九四五年十月五
日果國ニ到着致シマシタ。

問。貴方ハ日本人ニヨリ収容サレテ居タ期間中、
拷問、殴打、ヲハ何カ兵ノ他ノ惨虐行為ヲ目
撃シマシタカ。

答。私ハ大阪ノ海軍俘虜收容所及ビ後ニ救済ニ居
タ期間ニモ日本人ノ監視ニ依ツテ行ハレタ幾
多ノ殴打ヲ目撃致シマシタ。大阪ニハ、始め
四五八名が収容サレテ居マシタ。最初ノ四箇
月間ニ、粗末ナ食糧ト露天暴シトノ爲ニ一二
〇名が死亡致シマシタ。私共ノ食糧ハ一日、
一人當リ五七〇瓦デアツテ、ソレハ仕事ヲス
ル男子達ニハ適量ダト云ヘマセンデシタ。

EX 1967

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1.

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多ノ殴打ヲ目撃致シマシタ。大阪ニハ、始メ

四五八名が收容サレテ居マシタ。最初ノ四箇

月間ニ、粗末ナ食糧ト露天曝シトノ爲ニ一二

〇名が死亡致シマシタ。私共ノ食糧ハ一日、

一人當リ五七〇瓦デアツテ、ソレハ仕事ヲス

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★

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2.

若シ、貴方が働かなかつたら、此ノ配給ハ減
ゼラレ、又、病院ニ於テハ、終リ頃ニハ病人
ハ一日食糧三〇〇瓦ノミヲ給與サレマシタ。
日本人ハ衣類ノ方面ニ於テハ殆ト給與ヲ致シ
マセシマシタ。私が敗戦サレテ居タ間、私が
保温又ハ其ノ様ナ性質ノ意味デ特ル事ノ出来
タ唯一ノ衣類ハ米國赤十字用ノ綠色仕事服一
着及若干ノ帽子ト手袋デアリマシタ。私共ハ
又若干ノ日本軍用衣類ヲ給與サレマシタガ、
ソレハ粗末ナモノデ、中古品デアリマシタ。
大阪ニ於テ吾々停務ハ停車場内ニ於テ荷物
ヲ降ロス仕事ヲサセラレ、其ノ荷物ノ若干ハ
日本民間人ニ屬スルモノデアリマシタガ、其
ノ大部分ハ日本陸軍用ノモノデアリマシタ。
ソシテ敗戦デハ私共ハ、滿洲カラ日本ヘ送ラ
レタ日本陸軍用被服類ノ荷降シノ爲波止場ニ
於テ就役セシメラレマシタ。上述ノ事柄ハ、
何故、益ム事が出来ル機會ノアル毎ニ食糧並
ニ衣服ヲ益ム必兵ガアツタカラ説明スル爲ニ
申シ述べマス。マタ大阪ニ於テハサウイフ機
會ガ屢々アリマシタ。然ルニ私共ガ請ヘラレ
ルト、監視ハ私共ヲ致リマシタ。私ハ一度以
上模ラレマシタ。大阪デハ特ニ、二名ノ監視

★
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2.

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會ガ屢々アリマシタ。然ルニ私共ガ捕ヘラレ
ルト、監視ハ私共ヲ限リマシタ。私ハ一度以
上捕ラレマシタ。大阪デハ特ニ、二名ノ監視

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3.

ガ毆打シマシタ。私ハ彼等ノ名前モ綽名モ想
ヒ出スコトガ出来マス。其ノ一人ノ監視ハ／
マリヤマ／MARIYAMAト云フ者デ、假借役デ
後ニ現役トナツタ時ハ曹長デアリマシタ。
／マリヤマ／MARIYAMAハ約三〇才デ、寧ロ
細型ノ方デ、日本人トシテハ中背丈デシタ。
私ノ想像デハ五呎二時カラ五呎四時位ダと思
ヒマス。彼ハドチラカト言ヘバ好男子型ノ白
本人デシタ。彼ハ、俘虜ラシテ氣ヲ附ケシテ
直立セシメタリ、膝ヲ折ラスト云フ様ナ、ア
ル不愉快ヲ委曲ヲ取ラセ若シ助カウモノナラ
俘虜ヲ平手デ叩リツケマシタ。彼ハ、時トシ
テハ又、志ラク、長さ二呎、直径一時カラ一
時半ハアツタと思ハレル棒ヲ用ヒマシタ。
彼ハ、度々俘虜ノ顔ガ腫レ、兩眼ガ黒腫スル
程、毆リマシタ。モロー一名ノ監視ハ／ロー／
ゲリツグ／LOUGHERIEト綽名デシタ。常ニ
俘虜ヲ棍棒ヲ墮ツテキタカラデス。彼ハ俘虜
ガマイツテシマハテイ様ニ注意シテ、俘虜ヲ
選ンデ居タ様ニ想ヘマシタ。／ロー／ゲリツ
グ／LOUGHERIEハ約三五才位デ、太ツテ居
テ、背丈ハ五呎カラ五呎半時位デアリマシタ
彼ハ正規ノ陸軍軍人デ軍曹デアリマシタ。

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彼ハ一九四五年二月頃東京ニ居住セラレマシタ。

教養ニ於テハ、最も意地ノ愚イ監視ハ、木村／（宛字）／KHEURA／ト云フ男ア「サデスト」／SADIST／不傳名サレテ居マシタ。彼ハ、三五才位ノ男デ、約、五呎位ノ背丈ア、大變瘦身ノ体ツキマシタ。彼ハ諷備四草草書マシタ。彼ノ右ノ手ハ世ノ常ノ手デハアリマセンデシタ。彼ハ、手デ以テ十五分カラ二〇分間入ラザル事ガ出来、而モ腕ニハ何ノ加ミモ感ジナイト云ツタ風デシタ。彼ハ腕ヲマルデ、道徳ノ様ニ使ヒマシタ。大阪並ニ叔父ニ於ケル停彦牧養所長ハ日本陸軍中尉／雄次／（宛字）／E. ANBA／デアリ、其ノ若ハアル場合ニハ毆打スル事ヲ命ジ、又、其ノ他ノ毆打ノ時ニモ居合セテキマシタ。

問。日本ニ於ケル経験トシテ貴方ハ曾テ爆弾ノ危険並ニ其他戦争ノ危険ニ曝サレタ事ガアリマシタカ。

答。アリマシタ。前述ノ通り私共ハ焼夷攻撃ノ目標デアツタ大阪ノ偽道徳内デ就役セラレテ居リマシタ。一九四五年三月十三日、数個ノ爆弾ガ大阪デ私共ノ居ル二ツノ道徳内ニ落テ

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5.

マシタ。私共ハ、五月中、ヨリ安全ダカラト
イフノテ救済ニ移サレルト云ハレマシタガ、
私共ガ、其處ノ波止場及ビ船堀ノ見タラ、私
共ハ更ニ爆撃圈内ニアルコトヲ知リマシタ。
此ノ事ハ期待シテ居タ通リ發生シマシタ。
一九四五年七月十二日翌晨ノ初私共ノ居タ
兵舎ハ焼キ拂ハレマシタ。ソコア私共ハ、波
止場ノ真上ノ倉庫ニ移サレ其處ノ震室ト致シ
マシタ。波止場地區ハ七月三十一日爆撃ノ目
標トナリ、私共モ爆撃サレマシタ。七月三十
一日ノ爆撃後、私共ハ其ノ町ノ他ノ何ノ地區
ニ移サレマシタ。私共ノ居タ新シイ地區ハ一
九四五年八月八日爆撃サレタ初級工場ノ隣リ
デアリマシタ。